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EFFECTIVE FUNCTIONING OF BODIES ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS

Computerization of the work of human rights treaty-monitoring bodies in relation to reporting systems

Report of the Secretary-General

1. It will be recalled that the Task Force on Computerization, appointed by the Secretary-General pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1989/46 of 6 March 1989, recommended the establishment of a computerized data base to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the international human rights treaty-monitoring bodies. The recommendations of the Task Force, as contained in chapter IV of the annex to document E/CN.4/1990/39, were approved by the Commission on Human Rights at its forty-sixth session by resolution 1990/21 of 23 February 1990.

2. In that same resolution, the Commission recommended to States Members of the United Nations, in particular those States which are parties to United Nations human rights instruments, to make generous contributions to cover the estimated initial, one-time only, cost of the proposed system, as shown in paragraph 63 of document E/CN.4/1990/39. Furthermore, the Commission strongly recommended that the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly approve the recurrent cost of the system and authorize the inclusion of the annual recurrent cost in the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993, when the proposed system is expected to become operational. The Commission also requested the Secretary-General to report to its forty-seventh session on the progress made in the implementation of the resolution.

3. By its decision 1990/226 of 25 May 1990, the Economic and Social Council noted Commission on Human Rights resolution 1990/21 of 23 February 1990, approved the annual recurrent cost of the system proposed by the Task Force on Computerization and requested the Secretary-General to include the annual recurrent cost in the programme budget for the biennium 1992-1993.

4. The General Assembly at its forty-fifth session, by its resolution 45/85 of 14 December 1990, inter alia, took note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1990/21 of 23 February 1990 and of Economic and Social Council decision 1990/226 of 25 May 1990, and requested the Secretary-General to give high priority to establishing the computerized data base.

5. Pursuant to paragraph 5 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1990/21, the Secretary-General intends shortly to invite States Members of the United Nations, in particular those States which are parties to United Nations human rights instruments, to make generous contributions to cover the estimated initial, one-time cost of the proposed system.

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